

# Business Licenses

The purpose of this page is to provide basic forms and information necessary to begin the business license application process as well as answer some of the more commonly asked questions. It is not intended to be a substitute for more in depth research. Every business is unique. Inspections and/or additional permits may be required from various departments before your application can be approved.

**Business license application fees are non-refundable.** It is in your best interest to conduct your research prior to submitting your application. If you have any questions, you may contact our office.

Online Business License Renewals  
*3rd Party Payment Processing Fee Applies*

## Types of Licenses

Business licenses fall into 4 categories, based on factors such as location and customer traffic. If you are uncertain which license applies to your business, you may call the Tax Collector's Office for more details.

- Storefront License
- Mobile License
- Special License
- Cannabis License

## Storefront License

Any nonresidential or commercial space where a business is operating needs a Storefront Business License. Customer traffic is typically allowed. Inspections and additional permits may be required by the Departments listed below.

## Application Fees

- \$388.20

## Required Forms

- [Storefront Application \(PDF\)](#)

## Approval

Your application will be sent to the following county departments. A license cannot be issued without the approval of all applicable departments.

- [Building](#)
- [Environmental Health](#)
- Fire District
- [Planning](#)
- [Public Works](#)
- [Sheriff](#)

## Contact Us

**John Bartholomew**  
Treasurer-Tax Collector  
825 5th St, Room 125 Eureka,  
CA 95501  
[taxinfo@co.Humboldt.ca.us](mailto:taxinfo@co.Humboldt.ca.us)

**Administration**  
Ph:707-476-2450  
Ph:877-448-6829  
Fx:707-445-7608

**Values, Exemptions, Change of Address**  
Ph:707-445-7663

**Public Access Office Hours**  
Monday-Thursday  
9:00am-2:00pm  
Closed Fridays

## View or Pay Taxes Online



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## Important Note

If you own, operate, lease, or lease to a business that serves the public, then you are covered by the ADA. Be sure you understand your [Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\) Obligations](#) prior to opening your business.

## Mobile License

Most businesses conducted from a residence fall in this category. The Planning Department may require a Home Occupation Permit. Customer traffic and employees are not usually allowed. The Planning Department defines a typical Mobile business as a "lawn care".

## Application Fees

- \$213.20 (\$288.20 when food or drink is involved)

## Required Forms

- [Mobile Application \(PDF\)](#)

## Permits

Additional permits may be required before your application can be approved. Contact the county [Planning Department](#) if you are uncertain.

- [Cottage Industry Permit \(PDF\)](#)
- [Home Occupation Permit \(PDF\)](#)

## Approval

Your application will be sent to the following county departments. A license cannot be issued without the approval of all applicable departments.

- [Environmental Health](#)
- [Planning](#)
- [Public Works](#)
- [Sheriff](#)

## Special Peddler License

A Special Peddler license is used if the business is physically located in an incorporated area of the county or if it is not located in Humboldt County. You must provide a copy of the Business License for the base of your operations along with the completed application.

## Fees

**Total:** \$74.00; \$149.00 if food and/or drink is involved

- **Application Fee:** \$40; add \$75 if food and/or drink is involved
- **License Fee:** \$30
- **State Disability Fee:** \$4

## Required Form

- [Special / Peddler License Application](#)

## Booths

Booth rental in a licensed Storefront business also requires a Special Peddler's License

## Approval

Your application will be sent to the following county departments. A license cannot be issued without the approval of all applicable departments.

- [Environmental Health](#) (if food and/or drink is involved)
- [Sheriff](#)



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## Cannabis Licenses

Any business involving cannabis.

## Required Forms

- [Cannabis Business License Application \(PDF\)](#)
- [Cannabis Transporter Application \(PDF\)](#)

Please do not submit an application for a Cannabis Business License until you have an approved permit from the Planning Department

## Approval

Your application will be sent to the following county departments. A license cannot be issued without the approval of all applicable departments.

- [Building](#)
- [Environmental Health](#)
- Fire District
- [Planning](#)
- [Public Works](#)
- [Sheriff](#)

## License Update

To update an existing license, complete and return the County of Humboldt Business [License Update Form \(PDF\)](#). Updates cannot be processed for a change of location, a new application is required.

## Resources

- [Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\) Obligations](#): Information about business owner obligations required by the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- [Division of Labor Standards Enforcement \(DLSE\) Information](#): A message from the California DLSE.
- [North Coast Small Business Development Center \(SBDC\)](#): The North Coast SBDC answers questions and provides counseling on business related topics. The majority of their services are free.

